

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A method for the prevention or treatment of ~~oral cavity aphthas~~ Recurrent Oral Aphthous Ulcers (ROAU) comprising administering, as the sole active ingredient, hyaluronic acid or a salt thereof, having an average molecular weight comprised between 800,000 and 4,000,000 to a subject in need thereof.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 7, wherein the hyaluronic acid is administered in the form of sodium salt.

9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~2~~ 8, wherein said hyaluronic acid sodium salt is topically administered.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~3~~ 9, wherein said hyaluronic acid is administered in the form of topical compositions containing sodium hyaluronate in concentrations between 0.01 and 10% by weight on the total weight of the compositions.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~4~~ 10, characterised in that said concentration is between 0.01 and 5% by weight on the total weight of the composition.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~4~~ 7, wherein said average molecular weight of hyaluronic acid is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000.